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09/662,098

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Katherine E. Hayes

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EXAMINER

GHEE, ASHANTI

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/662,098

Applicant(s)

HAYES ET AL.

Examiner

Ashanti Ghee

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 May 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:  
  
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
2. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the container print job" in line 11 of the claim.  
  
There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

***Claim Objections***

4. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: misspelled word in line 7 of the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:  
  
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
6. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davidson, Jr. (US Patent No. 5,651,114) in view of Parker et al. (US Patent No. 6441919 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Davidson discloses a method for use in a printing system supporting line-conditioned data stream (LCDS) data (NPAP print job data reads on LCDS), the printing system being in communication with an LCDS source and a plurality of network components, the method comprising the steps of: receiving network data (data in each of these Network Protocols) from the plurality of network components (network specific hardware), the network data representing network print jobs (col. 5, lines 8-col. 6, lines 1-35); receiving line-conditioned data stream data (NPAP command) from one of the LCDS source (host computer) and the plurality of network components (col. 4, lines 15-30), the line-conditioned data stream data (NPAP print job data reads on LCDS) representing LCDS jobs (col. 5, lines 52-col. 6, lines 1-35); designating the LCDS job as a container print job (NPAP print job data; col. 5, lines 52-col. 6, lines 1-35); creating at least one job entity (change information in its entry) based on the container print job (col. 9, lines 5-67); processing the container print job by processing the at least one job entity (col. 10, lines 1-67); or monitoring a status (status) of the processing of the at least one job entity (col. 9, lines 46-67); and, selectively manipulating (change) the at least one job entity by an operator (host computer reads on operator; col. 9, lines 62-67).

Although Davidson does not disclose scheduling the network print jobs and the LCDS jobs for processing by the printing system; sequentially processing the network print jobs and the container print job based on the scheduling, Parker discloses scheduling the network print jobs and the LCDS jobs (other data) for processing by the

printing system (col. 6, lines 22-40); sequentially processing the network print jobs and the container print job based on the scheduling (col. 7, lines 63-col. 8, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Davidson and Parker due to both references disclosing printing systems to provide a relatively simple apparatus.

Regarding claim 2, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the creating of the at least one job entity includes identifying a marker located in the line-conditioned data stream corresponding to each job entity (col. 9, lines 5-67).

Regarding claim 3, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the creating of the at least one job entity includes creating control structures for printing (col. 5, lines 52-col. 6, lines 1-35).

Regarding claim 4, Davidson does disclose the processing of the at least one job entity, additional network jobs and container jobs are scheduled.

However, Parker discloses the method as set forth in claim 1 wherein, during the processing of the at least one job entity, additional network jobs and container jobs are scheduled (col. 6, lines 22-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Davidson and Parker due to both references disclosing printing systems to provide a relatively simple apparatus.

Regarding claim 5, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 4 wherein processing of the additional network jobs and container jobs occurs only after

termination of the processing of the at least one job entity (col. 9, lines 36-col. 11, lines 1-17).

Regarding claim 6, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 5 wherein terminating the processing of the at least one job entity comprises switching the printing system off-line (col. 10, lines 45-52).

Regarding claim 7, Davidson does not disclose the scheduling is based on a predetermined protocol.

However, Parker discloses the method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the scheduling is based on a predetermined protocol (col. 6, lines 22-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Davidson and Parker due to both references disclosing printing systems to provide a relatively simple apparatus.

Regarding claim 8, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising registering the at least one job entity on a print service module (col. 5, lines 8-col. 6, lines 1-54).

Regarding claim 9, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the monitoring of the status of the container job includes monitoring a collective status of the processing of the at least one job entity (col. 9, lines 5-67).

Regarding claim 10, Davidson discloses the method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the container job possesses attributes which are inherited by the at least one job entity, and further wherein the manipulating comprises modifying the attributes (col. 5, lines 8-col. 6, lines 1-21).

Regarding claim 11, Davidson discloses a printing system supporting line-conditioned data stream (LCDS) data, the printing system being in communication with an LCDS source and a plurality of network components, the system comprising: means for receiving network data from the plurality of network components, the network data representing network print jobs (col. 5, lines 8-col. 6, lines 1-35); means for receiving line-conditioned data stream data from one of the LCDS source and the plurality of network components, the line-conditioned data stream data representing LCDS jobs (NPAP print job data reads on LCDS; col. 5, lines 52-col. 6, lines 1-35); means for creating at least one job entity based on the container print job (col. 5, lines 52-col. 6, lines 1-35); means for processing the container print job by processing the at least one job entity (col. 6, lines 16-54); means for monitoring a status of the processing of the at least one job entity (col. 9, lines 5-67); and, means for selectively manipulating the at least one job entity by an operator (col. 5, lines 8-col. 6, lines 1-21).

Although Davidson does not disclose means for scheduling the network print jobs and the LCDS job for processing by the printing system; means for sequentially processing the network print jobs and the LCDS job based on the scheduling; means for designating the LCDS job as a container print job, Parker discloses means for scheduling the network print jobs and the LCDS job (other data) for processing by the printing system (col. 6, lines 22-40); means for sequentially processing the network print jobs and the LCDS job based on the scheduling (col. 6, lines 22-40); means for designating the LCDS job as a container print job (col. 7, lines 63-col. 8, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Davidson and Parker due to both references disclosing printing systems to provide a relatively simple apparatus.

Regarding claim 12, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim 11 wherein a marker is located in the line-conditioned data stream corresponding to each job entity (col. 6, lines 16-col. 7, lines 1-65).

Regarding claim 13, Davidson discloses a printing system supporting line conditioned data stream (LCDS) data, the printing system being in communication with an LCDS source and a plurality of network components, the system comprising: a first gateway operative to receive network data from the plurality of network components, the network data representing first print jobs (col. 4, lines 64-col. 5, lines 1-51); a second gateway operative to receive line-conditioned data stream data (NPAP print job data reads on LCDS) from the LCDS source (col. 5, lines 52-col. 6, lines 1-5); determine that the second print job is to be processed as a container print job, create third print jobs based on the second print job, process the second print job by processing the third print jobs, and report status and job information to the print service and control module (col. 9, lines 5-67); and an interface operative to facilitate manipulation of the third jobs (col. 9, lines 5-67).

Although Davidson does not disclose a print service and control module operative to designate the line-conditioned data stream data as a second print job and schedule the first and second print jobs for processing by the printing system; a decomposer operative to process the first and second print jobs based on the schedule,



Parker discloses a print service and control module operative to designate the line-conditioned data stream data as a second print job and schedule the first and second print jobs for processing by the printing system (col. 6, lines 22-40); a decomposer operative to process the first and second print jobs based on the schedule (col. 7, lines 63-col. 8, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would combine the teachings of Davidson and Parker due to both references disclosing printing systems to provide a relatively simple apparatus.

Regarding claim 14, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim wherein a marker is located in the line-conditioned data stream corresponding to each third job (col. 6, lines 16-col. 7, lines 1-65).

Regarding claim 15, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim 13 wherein the print service and control modules are operative to create control structures for printing the third jobs (col. 5, lines 8-col. 6, lines 1-54).

Regarding claim 16, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim wherein, during the processing of the third jobs, the print service and control modules are operative to schedule additional first and second jobs received through the first and second gateways (col. 5, lines 8-col. 9, lines 1-61).

Regarding claim 17, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim wherein the decomposer is operative to process the additional first and second jobs only after termination of the processing of the third jobs (col. 9, lines 36-col. 11, lines 1-17).

Regarding claim 18, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim wherein the LCDS source is a mainframe system (col. 4, lines 10-col. 5, lines 1-32).

Regarding claim 19, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim wherein the second job possesses attributes which are inherited by the third jobs (col. 9, lines 36-col. 11, lines 1-17).

Regarding claim 20, Davidson discloses the system as set forth in claim wherein the attributes are modified by an operator through the interface (col. 9, lines 36-col. 11, lines 1-17).

### ***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

**Hohensee et al.** (US Patent No. 5,813,020) discloses a method and system for dynamic presentation parameter override during document interchange.

**Brown, III et al.** (US Patent No. 5,050,098) discloses a printer initialization system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashanti Ghee whose telephone number is (703) 306-3443. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs and alt. Fri. (7-4PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



AG  
March 21, 2004

Ashanti Ghee  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2626

MARK WALLERSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

